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FOR YOUR PETS**

**Canine
Good Citizen**

**PET HEAVEN
HOW DO WE SAY GOODBYE?**

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EDITOR'S LETTER

I am so excited to unveil our new look magazine to you. You will still find all our normal informative and heart-warming stories but just with a new fresh design. We have also updated and streamlined our website to make it easier for you to find your copy of Pet Life or read our past issues. If you haven't had a chance to check it out yet then please go and take a look. While you are there, click on submit a story so we can share your pets with our readers in our next issue.

If you follow us on social media then you will know that we recently lost our rabbit, Bluehead Snowy. He was eight and a half years old and suffering from arthritis. We didn't think he would get through the cooler weather, even with modifications to his run and medication, but his death still took us by surprise and has left a huge hole in our family. I never thought I would be so attached to a bunny but Snowy was the best. He loved hanging out with us while we gardened, would play in the sprinkler with the kids and demand nose rubs whenever you walked past his run. We buried him next to Fred the cat so they can be with each other again. In this issue, we discuss the hard topic of when is it time to say goodbye, whether to cremate or bury, and I tell my story about all my rainbow bridge pets.

If you and your dog are looking for something fun to do together then check out our article on the Purina Proplan Canine Good Citizen certificate. By the end of the certification process you will not only have a strengthened bond with your dog but will have picked up some tips and tricks to help your dog behave when out and about.

Enjoy your read and remember to get in touch with us if you have an upcoming event, a story you would like to share with our readers or would like to stock our magazine for your clients.

amy



2 Pretty & purposeful plants

Adding live plants to an aquarium does more than just improve aesthetics – plants provide shelter, food for vegetarian fish and prevent green water.

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Canine Good Citizen

Strengthen your bond with your pooch and improve their manners.



Train **your** dog to be a good **citizen**

Are you looking for something fun to do with your dog that will not only strengthen your bond with your pooch but improve their manners? Then check out The Purina Pro Plan Canine Good Citizen™ (CGC) Test.

The CGC Test is a certification programme, not a competition, that will test your dog in a simulated everyday situation but in a relaxed and fun learning atmosphere. The test helps your dog become a respected member of the community by training and conditioning them to act with good manners in the home, in public and in the presence of other dogs.

Any dog over the age of 12 months can participate – you don't need to be a member of Dogs NZ or have a pedigree pooch.

Dogs must pass all tests in each grade before they can attempt the next grade. The CGC Test is all about rewarding dogs which are becoming “good-standing community members”.

To learn more about how to get involved with the The Purina Pro Plan Canine Good Citizen™ Test head to dogs.nz/cgc/cgc-home.

Canine Good **Citizen** exercise breakdown

Foundation

1. Appearance, handling and responsibility
 - a. Responsibility and care
 - b. Public cleanliness and identification
 - c. Examination of the dog by handler
 - d. Grooming and inspection of the dog by the assessor
2. Food manners
 - a. Person eating
 - b. Dog eating
3. Accepting a friendly stranger
4. Accepting being patted by a friendly stranger
5. Walk on leash through a door/gate in a controlled manner
6. Restrained return to handler
7. Walk on leash
8. Controlled walk through people and distractions
 - a. Pedestrian traffic
 - b. Distractions
9. Stay tied on leash
10. Meeting a stranger and their dog
11. Supervised separation
12. Playing with the dog

Bronze

13. Responsibility and care
14. Food manners
15. Stay tied on leash (handler out of sight)
16. Staying still and return to handler
17. Stationary vehicle control
 - a. Into a vehicle
 - b. Out of a vehicle
18. Control at steps
19. Walk on leash and reaction to distractions in a public area
 - a. Walk on leash
 - b. Distractions

Silver

20. Responsibility and care
21. Examination of the dog by a stranger (handler at a distance)
22. Stay in one place (untied, handler out of sight)
23. Return to handler (with distractions)
24. Stop the dog
25. Advanced vehicle control
 - a. Into a vehicle

- b. Vehicle is moving
 - c. Out of a vehicle
26. Staying still and return to handler in a public area
27. Calm and controlled behaviour while in a busy public area
- a. Walking
 - b. Staying in one area
 - c. Accepting being touched by a stranger

Gold

- 28. Responsibility and care
- 29. Walking beside the handler, without a leash
- 30. Sending the dog to a known article and staying
- 31. Parked vehicle control

 - a. Into a vehicle and leaving dog

GOLD FOR HAZEL

Kim-Michelle Flanagan talks about her experience with training Hazel to be a Canine Good Citizen.

Hazel is a multipoo, a Maltese cross poodle. She is black with bits of red and she has one white nail/claw which is pretty unique. Hazel is now 4 years old and such a wonderful young girl with a big personality. She has a sassy attitude which has made training challenging at times.

Hazel has grown so much since I have had her. She was 7 months old when I rescued her. She had been shut in a crate and suffered from separation anxiety. Every time I left the room she would cry or bark. Her past owners were unable to put the care and energy into what she needed, and I was lucky enough to have found her. I was going through a rough patch in my life and Hazel came into my life at the right moment.

Hazel's original name was La La. She needed a double barrel name to help with behaviour training and for recall, and Hazel was the first name I thought of. Hazel and I have committed many hours in the past two years working together for her to become a Canine Good Citizen, and in this time we've built a respectful relationship, learnt different tricks and had fun all at the same time. We have gained foundation, bronze, silver and gold, with each assessment containing a certain behaviour and skill set that is expected of both handler and dog. As the handler, I am required to answer certain questions and get these correct. During CGC training, I have got to know my dog better and have learnt that not only has she a very strong personality and is strong willed but she also has empathy and is very expressionative.

Hazel has now gained her gold Canine Good Citizen; it took her two goes because the first time round Hazel

- b. Distractions outside the vehicle while parked
 - c. Out of a vehicle
32. Delivering a dropped article to handler
33. Another person (other than handler) walking the dog in a public area, with distractions
- a. Handing the dog over to the nominated person
 - b. Person walking the dog in a public area
 - c. Distractions while person walking the dog in a public area
34. Stop the dog and recall in a public area
35. Remain tied on leash (relaxed isolation) in a medium-busy public area
36. Walking, with distractions, in a busy public area
- a. Walking
 - b. Distractions



wasn't interested and was having an off day. If a handler, the person who is training the dog, is stressed then a dog will pick up on this. Hazel is extremely sensitive!

Hazel is my first dog. I took part in CGC because it was a good way for me to learn about my dog. CGC training was a good way of socialising for both of us.



I highly recommend doing CGC as it is very beneficial for everyone involved in your dog's life. For those already involved in CGC but not progressing as fast as you thought, keep at it! All dogs, just like us, have their off days. Take it easy and have fun.

We started with a one-on-one session with Janice Kirk from Tevra dog training. Janice answered all my questions and assessed where I was with my dog.

She helped me with recall and other issues I had. From there I was put in a group with one of the trainers in her team. We learnt commands and tricks, progressing as we mastered each task, and gained the skills needed to successfully pass through the awards.

Although practice makes perfect, I do not tend to overtrain Hazel. I try to make it fun. Spending time with your dog in positive ways is good. Hazel found walking at a heel position really tricky as she is small and super quiet, so I was unable to see or hear her to give her the praise when needed.

One of the skills is for the dog to be tied up and the handler out of sight. We worked really hard on this

task, which was one of the foundation skills. This skill has been invaluable for us. Before, if I took Hazel to a cafe and left her outside she would sit and bark but now she is well behaved and sits patiently and quietly for me to return. Seeing her behaviour change from being an anxious wee girl to a very confident happy dog who constantly wags her tail has been awesome.

Hazel and I have found it tough at times. I have shed many tears when I thought about giving up and I am pleased that this was something that I worked through. It's amazing how far we have come thanks to perseverance, determination and the guidance and support from the wonderful trainers.





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PRETTY AND PURPOSEFUL PLANTS

Adding live plants to an aquarium does more than just improve aesthetics – plants provide shelter, food for vegetarian fish and prevent green water. Plants also soak up carbon dioxide, waste products, contribute oxygen to the water and promote the growth of algae, tiny worms, rotifers and protozoa, providing live food for the fish.

Lighting is important if you want your plants to grow successfully. They need 12–14 hours of light each day, just like in nature. Opinions vary concerning how much light live plants need, but generally 3–5 watts per 3.5 litres works well. Compact fluorescent bulbs and 50-watt halogen bulbs both do the job right, so experiment with different types of lighting to find out what works best for your plants.

Plants also require the proper nutrients to stay healthy and green. Everything works together in a well-planned aquarium, so keeping the plants fed isn't a difficult prospect. Nutrients to feed the plants come from the fish in the

tank. Fertilisation is easy as well because plants are able to naturally use fish waste as fertiliser. You can add a commercial fertiliser when you change the water, but it's usually better to follow the less-is-more philosophy when it comes to fertilising your plants. Too much fertiliser can cause problems with algae growth in the tank.

What about water temperature? The majority of aquatic plants thrive in water temperatures between 22 degrees Celsius and 25 degrees Celsius. The pH of the water is also important – a pH of 6.8 to 7.8 is ideal.

Snails are another natural component that help the overall health of the aquatic environment. Snails clean plants of food and small algae as they crawl over leaves and foliage. However, some snails can actually cause problems. Ramshorn and other species eat the leaves instead of cleaning them and can cause unwanted damage. Luckily, it's quite easy to remove troublesome snails. Simply place lettuce leaves at the top of the aquarium to attract the snails then

remove everything with a net once they've assembled on the lettuce pieces.

Before placing new plants in your aquarium, rinse them thoroughly in warm water to remove any insects you don't want invading the aquarium. Healthy aquatic plants have solid roots and firm leaves, so this is what you should look for when purchasing them. Avoid plants that give off a strange smell, especially bulbs, as this is an indication that the plant is not healthy and may not grow properly once placed in your tank.

Younger plants generally adjust better to transplantation, so keep this in mind as well. Although the plants you buy will need a period of time to adjust and may lose some leaves, don't be alarmed. This is completely normal. To promote healthy new growth, just remove dead leaves as they appear, being careful not to damage the roots.

Aquatic plants make a beautiful addition to any aquarium and help keep the fish comfortable, healthy and happy.

Planting these in your pond or aquarium is environmentally-friendly.



Glossostigma elatinoides

Leaves are pale green, spoon shaped and almost always found in opposite pairs along a prostrate stem. Flowers are tiny (4mm across) with five petals white to pink in colour produced on emergent plants.



Elodea canadensis

Leaves are green and are arranged around the stem in whorls of three with a distinct gap between whorls. Leaf shape can vary but leaves are usually elongated. Flowers small and inconspicuous on thin white stalks.

HOMEMADE TREATS FOR YOUR PETS

Hit the kitchen this winter and make some yum homemade treats for your pets.



BUNNY BITES

Ingredients

1 cup of rabbit food
1 banana
2 carrots

Instructions

- 1) Preheat the oven to 180 degrees Celsius.
- 2) Chop up the banana and carrot into small pieces.
- 3) Grind the rabbit food into a powder.
- 4) Blend the banana and carrot in a blender.
- 5) Put all ingredients into one bowl and mix until well combined.
- 6) Roll small amounts of the mixture into balls.
- 7) Place on a tray covered in baking paper.
- 8) Bake for 30 minutes until hardened.
- 9) Store in an airtight container.

PUMPKIN CAT TREATS

Ingredients

1/2 cup of oat flour
1/3 cup of cooked and mashed pumpkin
30g of tuna in spring water
1 tsp dried catnip (optional)

Instructions

- 1) Preheat oven to 180 degrees Celcius.
- 2) Combine all ingredients and mix well to form a dough.
- 3) Roll out dough between two sheets of baking paper. Use your favorite cookie cutter or simply roll into small balls.
- 4) Bake for 15 minutes or until firm and golden brown.
- 5) Store in an airtight container, in the fridge.

BANANA BLUEBERRY BISCOTTI DOG TREAT

Ingredients

2 bananas, mashed
1/2 cup blueberries
1/2 cup milk
1 Tbsp flax seeds

1/2 tsp baking powder

1/2 tsp cinnamon

2 cups spelt flour

Instructions

- 1) Preheat oven to 200 degrees Celsius.
- 2) Combine all dry ingredients together, stir until well mixed.
- 3) Add the bananas, blueberries, flax seeds and milk and knead until well combined.
- 4) Shape the mixture into logs roughly 15cm long and 2cm high, place on a tray lined with baking paper. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes.
- 5) Remove from the oven and allow to cool for 10 minutes then cut the logs into 2cm slices.
- 6) Bake the slices for a further 15 minutes until the slices are dry and crunchy.
- 7) Store in an airtight container.



Remember to feed all treats in moderation.





PET HEAVEN

HOW DO WE SAY GOODBYE?

"We love our pets their whole lives. We miss them for the rest of ours."

We love our pets with every ounce of our being and have the honour of being their guardians as they walk alongside us.

Our pets are precious to us, yet as they age or are affected by accidents or illness, we as their guardians must often face the heartbreak decision of letting them go.

This can be incredibly tough,

especially as we watch them suffer and slowly fade away. Our hearts break from the loss felt with their passing.

So how do we show our pets the dignity they deserve and say goodbye one last time, even as our trembling hands shake? The next few points will help you navigate that process.

THE BOND

The bond of love is a powerful one

and it's important to acknowledge that many pet owners will share a very strong bond with their furry friend.

Whether it's a dog, cat, bird or something else, our animal companions grow to become like family members, which can leave us open to feelings of grief and loss upon their passing.

We love our pets because they provide us with unconditional love and companionship, so it's only



natural to hear people express statements of grief and heartbreak when faced with the decision of having to euthanise their pet.

This is where I like to reassure my clients that despite their pet's pending death, they'll never forget them and their memory will remain a constant source of comfort throughout their lives.

EUTHANASIA

Euthanasia literally means "a good death". A qualified veterinarian will administer a lethal injection designed to stop your pet's heart, which can either be done at your home or at the clinic.

Many vets will prefer to see your pet at home as it's usually where they feel most relaxed and comfortable in their daily environment.

During this time, it is helpful to talk to your vet about what is going to happen ahead of the time, as thoughtful planning can make a huge difference to the euthanasia experience, for both pet and owner.

It's important to note that a "good" death can be a very moving, healing experience. Vets who offer this type

of service often have a very special touch and show kindness and empathy, caring for the family just as much as the beloved pet.

Being present can be a final chance to honour your pet, to hold, support and comfort them as they quietly slip away.

THE LOSS

 We recognise the value of the bond between the owner and the pet. We tuck their memory into our own like a precious jewel.

Once your pet has passed, there's a chance you'll feel like you could never love another pet again. It hurts so much to breathe and your soul aches.

For a time, their absence will be a painful reminder of the cold, empty space their love once filled, and you'll find yourself yearning for one more chance to see their happy face greet you at the end of the day.

Life will likely feel eerily quiet without your pet, too, as you come to understand how you never felt

alone when they were around.

You may even cry every day, but I promise it won't last forever and as time goes on, be rest assured your heart will indeed heal and their memory will live on in your heart.

SHOULD I GET A NEW PET?

Everyone is different regarding how they will choose to honour their pet. Some will do so by looking at pictures of their pets, reminiscing on good times. Others will create a keepsake of their ashes, to feel their presence with them always.

Another way could be to give all that love to a new pet in need of a new home – a pet just waiting to jump into their open arms.

If you're feeling guilty or apprehensive about getting another pet, I can guarantee it will not remove the void left by your old companion, however, it will provide a chance for you to feel the love your last dear friend wanted for you.

Dr Heidi Ward-McGrath
Veterinarian and dog mum

REMEMBERING YOUR PET

WHAT IS AN APPROPRIATE RESTING PLACE?

Editor Amy Thomas shares her pets' resting places after they crossed the rainbow bridge.

I still remember the loss of my first cat, Flame. I was about 11 and I couldn't believe that my parents had given up on him and told the vet to put him to sleep. In hindsight, they made the right decision but I didn't realise this until I had to make this choice for my cat, Hampton, in my mid-20's. Saying goodbye to your pet, I have found, is just as hard as saying goodbye to a human family member and sometimes perhaps even harder.

Unfortunately, I have lost a number of pets over the years and each time one passes I tell myself no more ... only to end up with another. Of all my pets, I have only ever cremated one. The rest have been buried in special areas of our garden. Some have had a native tree planted by them, others a headstone and some nothing. I was pondering the other day while preparing this section for the magazine as to why that is: why have I laid my babies to rest in different ways? I am still not sure exactly what has determined the different outcomes but thought I would share how we have laid our pets to rest over the years. Our first three cats, Winsloe, Hampton and Devon, all lived together for six or so years before Hampton was the first to cross the



Bruce — cremated and still sitting on the bookshelf.



Vin — buried beside Diamond and Teddy under an established Oak tree.

rainbow bridge. I buried Hampton, curled up, in a gorgeous, white lace pillowcase and kept the same pillowcases for when Winsloe and Devon passed. The three amigos, all the same. Some people thought it was a bit morbid but I never saw it like that. Likewise, I didn't think there was anything wrong with keeping Devon's amputated leg in the freezer, much to my mother's horror. I wanted to be able to make him whole again when he passed away and headed to the rainbow bridge – nothing wrong with that right?

Our first dog to pass was my "heart dog", Bruce. Even just writing his name makes me smile. He was such a dork and a gift to my husband, but he very quickly became my boy. Bruce had become sick with a suspected brain tumour and had been transferred for overnight monitoring at the after-hours vet.

I will never forget the call in the middle of the night to tell me to come and say my goodbyes because he wasn't going to make it through the night. I never made it. I missed saying goodbye by 10 minutes and it broke my heart. It still makes me want to cry when I think about it six years on. Bruce was cremated and not because he held a special place in my heart but because he was a big dog! The thought of digging a burial hole for him in North Canterbury in the middle of summer ... well you get the idea.

Since losing Bruce we have lost three other dogs (Vin, Diamond and Teddy) to the rainbow bridge, all to old age. They are all buried together under an established tree. None of them have headstones. The tree itself reminds us of the beautiful babies we have said our goodbyes to.

The only pet who has a headstone is Fred. Fred came to us as a stray kitten and very quickly became my daughter's boy. She adored Fred and was heartbroken when we had to put him down after being hit by a car. We only had Fred for two years, but in those two short years he was my daughter's constant companion. Fred is buried under our daughter's bedroom window with our rabbit, Snowy. Snowy only just passed away a few weeks ago and we are still mourning his loss. Fred has the most ornate headstone made by my dad, and Snowy has a simple little rabbit figurine.

It is never easy to say goodbye, but remembering the goodtimes is important and can help the healing process.



Hampton – buried with a native tree planted by him.



Bluehead Snowy – buried by his mate, Fred, with a small rabbit figurine placed on his grave.

NEW ZEALAND WELCOMES FIRST-EVER WATER CREMATION SERVICE FOR PETS



Losing a pet is like losing a loved one. Now pet owners can take comfort in an innovative new Kiwi business offering New Zealand's first-ever eco-friendly, gentle alternative to traditional pet cremation.

Wairarapa's Pet Angel Wings Service (PAWS) is the proud provider of New Zealand's first alkaline hydrolysis service (also known as water cremation or green cremation).

PAWS was officially launched in May, and in addition to water cremation offers New Zealand's only holistic, one-stop shop for pet funerals, eco-pet cremation, hospice and afterlife pet care services.

Top veterinary surgeon Dr Heidi Ward-McGrath and funeral director and embalmer Joanne Piper are the dream team behind PAWS, and together herald more than 50 years' experience in their respective industries.

Dr Ward-McGrath, who has been offering palliative care, pet euthanasia and cremation services since 1999, said the new technology was something she felt would revolutionise New Zealand's pet cremation industry.

"This type of service is fast becoming the preferred end-of-life choice for pet owners in the United States, Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom as it's 100 per cent environmentally-friendly as opposed to flame cremation which is not," Dr Ward-McGrath said.

"Pet owners are wanting to minimise their global footprint and are also wanting the most natural, serene method of afterlife care for their beloved pets.

"Jo and I have worked with thousands of animals and their owners during this process and are acutely aware of how important a compassionate and empathetic service is to the healing journey following the death of a cherished companion.

"We're therefore very excited to bring this new technology to New Zealand and look forward to introducing this service to Kiwi pet owners.

"We also plan to introduce water cremation training to the wider pet cremation community as we believe it is the future for this industry."

Water cremation is a natural process involving warm water and alkali working together to rapidly break down all tissue (protein), bar the bones.

Just as in Mother Nature, the process works through oxidation, only faster. It takes around eight to 10 hours all up.

Water cremation does not destroy the bone matter, so once the process is complete, bones are dried, placed into a cremulator and turned into a white granule and powder (ash) which can be scattered, kept in an urn or used in memorial jewellery and other keepsakes.

PAWS offers water cremation for cats, dogs, rabbits, birds, guinea pigs and exotics weighing under 100 kilograms.

To find out more about PAWS, visit petangelwings.co.nz, email: jo@petangelwings.co.nz or phone: 06 377 7955.

Meet our readers

We love hearing from our readers. Email a photo of your pet to info@petlife.co.nz for inclusion in our next issue.

Daddy's girl

Rusty was one of three feral kittens that were going to be drowned and I just had to save them. They were only about 3 weeks old so needed a lot of work to save them. This was further complicated by it being the first day of level 4 lockdown which made getting to the vet a bit of a mission. All of the kittens had cat flu and Rusty was especially very ill. However, a year on, Rusty is the sweetest and much loved cat. She is a real Daddy's girl and I couldn't imagine our home without her.

Helen Blake



New beginnings

Our female cat called Little Jade was rescued from our old property when we had a house fire. She had to wait three days until we could return to the property to rescue her. She is great at following us around our property, even when we go to the front or back. She was originally from our local vet (Oamaru Vets) and in the Tiny Tigers programme.

Louise Wainman



Best mate

This is my best mate, Leo, taking his day of bed rest after an X-ray and teeth clean.

Alysha Morgan



SILBERHORN SUPPLEMENTS

Arthritis and your ageing pet

Pets are life-long companions and faithful friends. Like us, they are subject to the natural processes of life; from being a kitten or puppy they go through adolescence and become mature, wise old souls.

Just like us, their lives are punctuated by the health issues that come with ageing. They will get tender paws and sore joints. And arthritis can even affect a pet at any stage of their life.

Like us, our pets need exercise and room to move about throughout their day. Lethargic, overweight and docile pets may be more prone to muscle and joint deterioration as an increased load and lack of muscle tone exacerbates the issue. It is generally accepted that healthy muscles support joints, reducing the load on cartilage, tendons and the contact surfaces within joints.

Discomfort and pain are very often nature's early warning signs of arthritis, joint inflammation and swelling. Therefore, a reluctance to move about or a loss of interest in regular neighbourhood walks are signs that should not be ignored. A general change in attitude towards food, favouring one leg over the other, a limp or a hop may all be an indication of arthritis, injury or damage.

Other indicators may include licking or chewing around the areas of some joints. If you see these tendencies then it is worthwhile physically examining the joint and general area. Always be mindful that this may be very painful for your pet and trigger a spontaneous flight or fight response: a bite, scratch or bolt.

Bearing in mind that muscles may be wasting away in

the affected area, it is a good idea to compare the joint on the opposite side. By comparing one side with the other, it will be more apparent where the issues are and what they might be.

If the issue becomes apparent it's time to consider your options. If there is no trauma, rash or broken skin then the options are quite different to those if the skin is broken or inflamed at the surface. In the event of cracked or sore pads, emu oil applied topically may be of benefit; always look between the paws and examine for foreign bodies, sharp items like seeds, prickles or thistles or other foreign bodies that may be causing irritation and inflammation. In the event that the problem area is around a joint, also check for foreign bodies. For peace of mind, it's always best to get a checkup at your local vets to ensure it is nothing more serious.

Silberhorn has a range of natural supplements available to settle and support joint health. PetRecovery contains deer velvet, glucosamine and chondroitin which provide essential joint support for ageing pets.

Another product which works well in conjunction with PetRecovery is PetMussel.

PetMussel contains New Zealand green-lipped mussels and is packed with lipids and omegas to support joint health. The essential nutrients



and minerals contained within these natural products may be depleted in your pet or unavailable through their regular diet alone. Both of these products are in capsule form to be taken orally and are all natural to provide your pet with the essential building blocks to maintain general good health. They are especially beneficial for connective tissue, joint and muscle health.

So, what does this all mean regarding pet health?

At all times be mindful of your pet's diet, particularly of the quantities and types of food that may result in weight gain and unnecessary overloading of their

joints. Keep their dishes clean for food and water and make sure they have enough water to prevent dehydration, especially in the summer months. Bedding needs to be regularly cleaned for hygiene and to ensure it is free of parasites. Most importantly, regular exercise is critical to maintain your pet's physical and mental health. Exercise provides socialisation, stimulation and burns off any excess energy. Last but not least, always keep in touch with your veterinary professional.

Calling all Dogwatch dog owners ... submissions are now open for the 2022 Dogwatch calendar.

If you adopted your dog from Dogwatch then we want you to email us your special photos. We can't make this calendar without you.

Go on, have a flick through your phone. There'll be pics of your dog at the beach, in the snow, rolling in the autumn leaves, on the couch, sleeping by the fire, playing with the other members of the pack or just enjoying life in general. Send us one that makes your heart sing because we all believe in second chances!

A few things tips regarding your choice:

- Send in as many pics as you want because the more photos we have to choose from the better.
- Due to privacy issues, we cannot use any photos that include people. Other dogs, cats, birds, bunnies, etc, are fine.
- Please make sure your fur baby is the main feature of your photo – we love beautiful

backgrounds but we need your dog to be the star of the show.

- Send us the biggest version of the photo that you have (choose the largest file size when you send it to us). If the image size is too small, we may not be able to use it so the larger the file size the better!
- When you send your pic you must include your dog's name, age and the year they were adopted.
- Submissions close on 31 August 2021.

So, come on all you wonderful Dogwatch dog owners, send us your photos and help us save more dogs just like yours.

Email your favourite pics to info@dogwatch.co.nz and let's make the 2022 Dogwatch Calendar the best one yet!





Specials
Expire 31
Aug 2021

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Purchase any two or more pet supplements from this flyer **and receive a 10% discount off the full price of the products ordered**

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PetCalm

Soothing support for stressed out pets

PetCalm features a range of non-narcotic herbs to help calm your pet and has been used successfully by kennel proprietors and endorsed by many dog clubs. PetCalm contains hops, skullcap, valerian, st john's wort and passiflora extracts plus capsicum powder as the transport herb.

This product can be taken when a specific situation occurs, or on an ongoing basis for a pet with behavioral problems or stress issues.

Recommended dosage: 1-2 capsules daily whole or sprinkled over food. Product should take some effect within approximately one hour, full effect may take a few days when some ingredients have time to accumulate.

Not recommended for pregnant or nursing pets, or animals due to be bred.



**PetCalm
\$25.00**

testimonial

Hi Silberhorn. My dog is about 33-36kgs we give her two capsules of PetCalm when she starts to get stressed ie: fireworks time. It calms her down and she rests which is very good and less distressing for us all, but especially her, she is just so relaxed and it does work well. The Pet Calm is awesome for my dog I wish I had found it earlier hopefully a peaceful Guy Fawkes. Regards Sue.



Order Online

Scan this QR code to order any of the products from this flyer. Make sure you use the promo code **WINPL21**

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Freephone: 0800 502 402 / www.silberhorn.co.nz/pet005/



Silberhorn
SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN



PetRecovery

Assists in recovery from operations and provides support for healthy joints and mobility

PetRecovery capsules contain a combination of deer velvet, glucosamine and chondroitin. These are nutritional precursors for normal cartilage which aids in the retention of normal mobility, whilst assisting in the health and general well-being of older cats and dogs. Clinical trials have proven that glucosamine has been effective in supporting joint health by providing essential nutrients and minerals for your pet. PetRecovery may help to provide your pet's body with the raw materials it needs for healthy joint and muscle function, working naturally without side-effects.

Recommended dosage: 2-4 capsules daily, whole or sprinkled over food.

**PetRecovery
\$29.00**

testimonial

Dear Silberhorn. I want to thank you for making such a wonderful product as 'PetRecovery'. It has worked really quickly for my dogs 'Millie and 'Maia' and my cat 'Tinkerbell'. My dogs lick it up off a butter dish like a lolly, I sprinkle it out of the capsules. Millie especially, is moving more freely and is much brighter and eating more because your product has been so effective on her arthritis. The price is so good too! My vet recommends it to her clients, above the other expensive products which I am unable to afford as are other pet lovers. So... thank you so very much. Yours faithfully, Julie.

Boost your pet's health and well-being with our all-natural pet products

Our natural pet products are produced to the same high standards as our quality line of natural dietary supplements for people!



PetOmega3

Support for overall good health

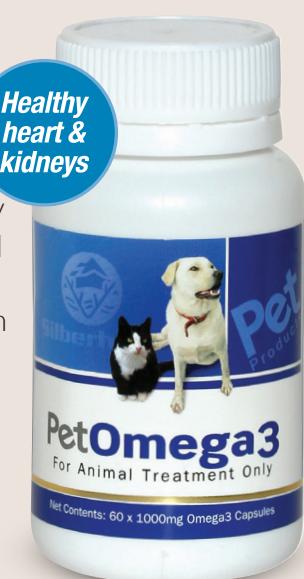
**PetOmega
\$25.00**

PetOmega-3 fatty acids EPA (Eicosapentaenoic acid) and DHA (Docosahexaenoic acid) are not only important for people, but also for your pets. These fatty acids will help support healthy growth, development and a healthy immune system. If you notice any of the following signs, then your pet may benefit from this supplement:

- Dry, scaly, flaky skin
- Lacklustre coat or hair
- Spots or blemishes.

PetOmega-3 is great for skin, coat and eye health, as well as healthy joints, heart health, renal function and healthy cell growth. This product can be used in conjunction with our other pet supplements.

Recommended dosage: 1-2 capsules per day whole or drizzled over food.



Silberhorn
SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN

Freephone: 0800 502 402 / www.silberhorn.co.nz/pet005

PetVel

For mobility and activity

PetVel
\$29.00

Silberhorn perfected a deer velvet capsule suitable for both domestic and working animals, rich in trace elements and minerals which may assist in supporting joint health and normal muscle tone and activity. Deer velvet is a totally natural substance containing many essential minerals and nutrients, calcium among them. PetVel is easily assimilated into the body. Trial work carried out through a vet, showed it appeared to increase the activity levels of animals, with some of them exhibiting behaviour of their youth. Deer Velvet may provide nutritional support for healthy cartilage and may be beneficial for aging cats and dogs.

Recommended dosage: 1-4 capsules daily, whole or sprinkled over food.

testimonial

Dear Silberhorn. Our 12 ½ year old Lassie Collie had been slowing down for some time and recently his back legs failed him and I found him lying on the ground crying in pain unable to get up so I carried him inside and the diagnose was he was going to the happy hunting ground. I rang Silberhorn, PetVel was delivered in 24hrs, I started him on it. We were amazed in 3 days he got back on wobbly feet in a week he walked around the block, yes he's slow but he's got a second life. Thanks Glenn.



Buy Online from Silberhorn

Silberhorn produces a range of totally natural dietary supplements for people and pets.

Our other natural dietary supplements include deer velvet products, collagen products, a range of products from the sea, herbal formulas, vitamins & minerals and bee products all in convenient capsule form.

Purchase from your local Silberhorn retailer or to buy online go to www.silberhorn.co.nz, click on shop and simply add the products to your cart, then proceed to the checkout. We ship throughout NZ and overseas.

PetShark

Healthy cartilage & joints

PetShark capsules contain pure New Zealand shark cartilage powder. Did you know that sharks are one of the healthiest creatures on earth! PetShark is an excellent source of calcium, phosphorous and proteins with high concentrations of mucopolysaccharides, chondroitin sulphate and vitamins A and C. All these ingredients help support your pet's joints and may assist with flexibility and suppleness. Many of our customers have reported improved health in their pets once they started supplementing with PetShark

Recommended dosage:
1-2 capsules daily, whole or sprinkled over food.

Not recommended for pregnant or nursing pets, or within 6 weeks of surgery.



PetShark
\$25.00

Freephone: 0800 502 402 / www.silberhorn.co.nz/pet005/

 **Silberhorn**
SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN

PetMussel

General good health

PetMussel
\$25.00

Rich in
vitamins &
minerals

PetMussel capsules contain New Zealand Green-Lipped Mussel powder, which is rich in many vitamins, (especially the B-complex group, including: thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, pantothenic acid, pyridoxine, biotin, folic acid and the cobalamins) a broad range of minerals and also trace elements. These all contribute to the health and vitality of your pet. PetMussel is also very high in proteins, omega-3 and mucopolysaccharides, which can assist in supporting joints, resulting in improved mobility (great for older animals with hip or leg issues). This product can be used in conjunction with our other pet supplements.

Recommended dosage: 1-3 capsules daily, whole or sprinkled over food.



testimonial

Dear Silberhorn, I have a 7 year old American Cocker Spaniel who has a slipping patella. We have been giving her one PetMussel capsule per day sprinkled on her food. Since she has been on the PetMussel she has made a remarkable improvement. Her eyes are brighter, her coat is shinier and she is moving better. Her general demeanor is so much better as well. She is one happy little girl! I have been recommending this product to other pet owners as well. Robert

Emu Oil

Great for the skin - for pets and people

Our customers use our human-grade Emu Oil for their pets to help condition their skin and coat, reduce irritation of flea bites and soften pads on cats and dogs paws. It also can relieve eczema in dogs and help heal wounds faster, resulting in less scaring. Silberhorn Emu Oil can also be effective in soothing swelling and soreness in horse joints and fetlocks.



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WILD WHISKERS

Local charity works to reduce wild cat population

They might be the most popular companion animal in New Zealand, but cats are not so popular in the wild.

Stray and feral cats are a widespread problem across the country, with numbers estimated to be in the millions. At this scale, they not only face lives of hunger and poor health, but also wreak havoc on our native birdlife, skink, and gecko populations. It's a problem that is hard to contain. A single unspayed female cat and her offspring are able to produce more than 400,000 cats in their lifetime.

One local charity is working to change that by rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming true strays and wild kittens across Tauranga.

Wild Whiskers was established in 2018 by Tauranga vet nurse Sharna Asplin. While working in-clinic, she noticed that strays and wild cats were falling through the cracks.

Sharna says the volunteer-run group has two focuses.

"Over the summer months it is kitten season, so we are all about taking in wild kittens eight weeks and younger as this is the crucial socialisation period. We have on average 20 fosterers across Tauranga who will take the kittens in, and once we are sure that they will

become great pets, we desex, vaccinate, microchip, flea and worm them and put them up for adoption.

"During the winter months we shift our focus to TNR: trap, neuter, return. When someone contacts us about a stray, first we make sure they aren't owned by posting on social media, scanning for a microchip, putting on a 'found cat collar' if possible and contacting local vet clinics. We then neuter the cat before releasing it back.

"We will only do TNR if someone is willing to take on guardianship, there is a regular food source, and there is no danger to native wildlife. Having that regular food source ensures the cats are less likely to hunt to sustain their hunger.

"But of course, there are circumstances where the cats can't go back to where they've come from, or if they are sick and injured. Then, unfortunately, euthanasia is usually the best option for them."

Wild Whiskers has rescued, rehabilitated and rehomed over 100 kittens this past kitten season from October to April. They have also trapped, neutered and returned an additional 52 adult cats.



Sharna says their work is community-focused, and people can support their work by taking a few simple steps.

"Quite often I'll get a message saying there's a cat hanging around my house and I want it gone, but there is a process we have to go through. As a charity and as volunteers, we work with the community. They are community cats, and they are a community issue, so we like to work with our community to find the best solution for them."

"If you find a stray, the best thing you can do is take its photo, write a description, and pop it online. You can also ask neighbours and do a mailbox flyer drop. It gets the ball rolling and helps us in establishing if the cat is actually owned."

"Just because a cat is skinny, has a dirty coat or takes off as soon as it sees you, don't automatically assume that it is stray or feral. It may be an owned cat who is old, has a health issue or is not fond of strangers."

"And If you see a cat who has a notch taken off its ear, most likely the left ear, please leave it be, as it is a wildie who has already been desexed."

Wild Whiskers Tauranga received TECT (Tauranga Energy Consumer Trust) funding for the first time this year to support their operating costs. Sharna says the \$4000 grant has gone a long way to helping more cats and kittens in the region.

"It's made a huge difference for us, especially after last year with COVID and the lockdown. There was a lot of fundraising that we weren't able to do, so it made a big impact having those funds, especially for vet fees which can be costly."

"It's also a great acknowledgement of the work we are doing to be supported by such a major funder like TECT."

"We are also so appreciative of all those who donate, and the support we get from community groups like Good Neighbour and businesses like Pak'n Save Tauranga and vet clinics who donate stock throughout the year. It's all helping us to help the environment and stop the cycle of unwanted litters and the health issues that can come along with it."

Name of new dog park a fitting tribute to advocate of dog control

About 500 people and their dogs paid tribute to the late Les Dalton, a local and national voice for dog control, at the recent opening of Lower Hutt's first dog park which was named in his honour.

Michelle Dalton, Les' daughter, who spoke on behalf of the Dalton family on the day, said her dad would be looking down on the park with a smile.

"It was an emotional day for our family, but also one where we can enjoy seeing Les' vision come to life," she said.

The family was presented with a posthumous certificate of appreciation to Les for his years

of service to dog safety, at a local, national and international level.

Les had worked as part of Hutt City Council's Animal Services team for 43 years. He was a prominent local and national voice about dog control. The dog park was the last major project he worked on, and the council decided it was a fitting tribute to name the park after him.

Lower Hutt Mayor Campbell Barry said the dog park had been a long time coming for the city's dog community and would be a well used asset in the city, as evidenced by the strong turnout at the open day.

"It was an absolute pleasure joining dog owners and their furry friends this morning, and seeing

everyone, especially the dogs, experience and enjoy the park for the first time," Mayor Barry said.

It is the city's first fenced dog exercise area in Lower Hutt, which has 10,000 registered dogs.

Wainuiomata Ward Councillor Keri Brown spoke of the importance animals played in people's lives, and said the park was a way for the council to give back to the dog community.

"Our pets play a huge role in our lives. They're our companions, our friends, and an important part of our families. This park is about giving all of our dogs a place where they can exercise, socialise safely, and have some fun."

UPCOMING EVENTS



Sled dog meet and greet

Saturday, 10 July, 2pm–4pm
Hanmer Springs Forest Camp,
243 Jollies Pass Road, Hanmer
Springs



Scent-work workshop

Saturday, 17 July, 9am–2pm
Fur Kids, Alexandra, 31
Kelliher Lane, Springvale



Wanaka Sled Dog Festival 2021

**Wednesday, 11 August—till
Saturday, 14 August**
Snow Farm NZ, 2127
Cardrona Valley Road,
Cardrona



Meadow Fresh Dog Derby

**Saturday, 14 August, 11am–
2pm**
Coronet Peak, Coronet Peak Ski
Area, Queenstown



WOOF – the Rainbow Dog Show

**Saturday, 4 September,
1pm–5pm**
Earnslaw Park, 68 Beach Street,
Queenstown

Antioxidants in the body and in nutrition: function and significance

Antioxidant compounds play a key protective role in the cells of the human and animal body, but their function needs to be supported from time to time. Immunovet can help our animals.

During the healthy functioning of the human and animal body, free radicals (reactive oxygen and reactive nitrogen radicals), i.e. highly reactive, short-lived molecules containing oxygen or nitrogen, are formed in the cells every day. The amount is optimally controlled by the body's own antioxidant substances as well as the antioxidants (e.g. vitamins C and E) taken up during the diet which contribute to the inactivation of free radicals in several ways. Due to this well-regulated equilibrium, these reactive molecules do not normally cause damage in human and animal cells.

Oxidative stress is a condition in which the ratio of free radicals to antioxidants is upset, the amount of the latter unable to keep pace with the free radicals formed. Such an unbalanced condition usually occurs when the body is under some strain, which can be either permanent stress (e.g., moving animals, changing owners, inadequate housing or feeding conditions, social stress due to people or other animals living around it), or it is also a long-term illness. Then, the free radicals present in excessive amounts also damage the proteins, fatty substances and DNA in the cells, which can lead to cell ageing, death or even the formation of tumours.

Supporting the body's own antioxidant function with dietary supplements can provide protection against damage caused by oxidative stress. Immunovet has been shown to have antioxidant effects based on both previous and recent research data, and can significantly reduce the amount of free radicals. With regular consumption, Immunovet can help maintain the long-term healthy functioning of our companion cells.

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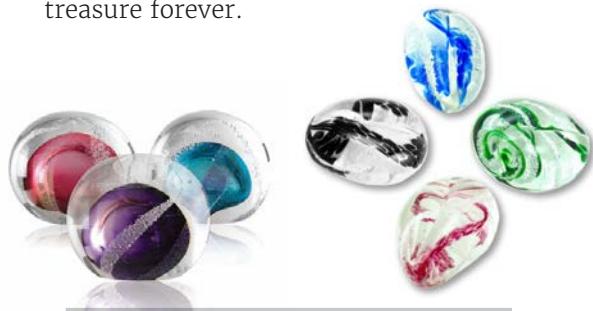
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NZ Rat Rescue
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nzrr.org

Animal Evac NZ
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animalevac.nz

Chained Dog Rehabilitation & Rehoming
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Ruakaka Dog Rescue Tust
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ruakakadogrescue.com

AUCKLAND

Crazy Cat Lady Cat Rescue South Auckland
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Franklin Cat Rescue
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9 Lives Orphanage
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9livesorphanage.co.nz

Hope Rescue South Auckland
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Passion 4 Pawz
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North Shore Turtle, Reptiles & Amphibian Rescue
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Auckland Fish, Turtle & Reptile Rescue
reptilerescuenz@gmail.com

Auckland Puppy Rescue
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aucklandpuppyrescue.com

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ARRC Wildlife Trust
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arrc.org.nz

WAIKATO

Adoptable
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Paws 4 Life
rachael@paws4life.co.nz
paws4life.co.nz

New Lives Animal Rescue
newlivesrescue@xtra.co.nz
newlivesrescue.co.nz

Paws Awhile Animal Sanctuary
anna.dahlberg@hotmail.co.nz

DC Rescue
dc_rescue@yahoo.co.nz

HAWKE'S BAY

Hastings & Districts SPCA
committee@spcahastings.org.nz

If you would like to see your rescue/welfare group listed here, email info@petlife.co.nz

Pet Life is not associated with any group listed within.

This list has been put together to assist our readers with finding suitable rescue and welfare groups within their region.

Goat Welfare NZ
goatwelfarenz@hotmail.com

Hawkes Bay Bird & Wildlife Rescue
Charity
hbresq@gmail.com

MANAWATU/ WHANGANUI

Poppelles Kitten Rescue
poppelles@clear.net.nz

All Paws Rescue
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havenrescue.org.nz

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Wellington Amphibian and
Reptile Rescue
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The Outpawed Rescue Trust
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outpawed.wordpress.com

Wairarapa Community Kitties
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Cats Protection Wellington
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Wellington Rabbit Rescue
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wellingtonrabbitrescue.org

Upper Hutt Animal Rescue
info@animalrescue.org.nz
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Loose Leash Cat Rescue
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Turtle Rescue and Rehoming
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turtlerescue.co.nz

Cat Care INC
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catcare.org.nz

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Canterbury Raptor Rescue
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oxfordbirdrescue.org.nz
canterburyraptorrescue.org.nz

Cats Protection League Canterbury
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Dog Watch Sanctuary Trust
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The New Zealand Raptor Trust
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